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Editorial Inaugural Editorial: My Vision for "British Journal of Gastroenterology"

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It is my pleasure to address you as the new Editor in Chief of British Journal of Gastroenterology. British Journal of Gastroenterology is a new online peer–reviewed, open-access journal aimed at publishing high quality articles in a broad area of gastroenterology including both clinical and translational research.

Why another open-access online journal with British Journal of Gastroenterology?

Our answer is the combination of our values: competence-reliability-transparency. We believe that this combination is a unique feature that defines our journal. Our readership is diverse: gastroenterologists, hepatologists, research scientists, academicians, practitioners, primary care physicians, advanced practice providers, principal investigators, students and even patients who want to understand the methods and observed data from emerging research and the implications for disease management. This last group might not question the competence of a medical doctor and their staff, or the reliability of the approach to diagnosis in their specific cases, but they have to rely on transparency and best-evidence regarding treatment approaches and expectations relevant to their care. Hence, transparency in this respect is the prerequisite for a good relationship between patient and clinician. We believe that a widely accessible journal with the concepts and targeted readership described above can be a valuable resource in the current environment of information availability and sharing that is so prevalent in the digital age.

British Journal of Gastroenterology publishes carefully reviewed and curated original research articles, case reports, case studies, full reviews, minireviews, short communications, and letters-to-the-editor on all aspects of basic and clinical gastroenterology and hepatology. Articles will be published on the Journal's web site immediately upon acceptance and be freely available. All submissions to the journal will undergo a peer-review process and accepted manuscripts will undergo professional copy-editing. The peer review process is carried out by members of our superb group of reviewers and editors with the goals of providing rapid responses and both rigorous and supportive reviews.

I am extremely proud to be a part of this exciting new endeavor and am confident that it will become a highly respected and trusted resource of progressive knowledge and information in the field of gastrointestinal medicine. I look forward to working with all of you in your roles as authors, reviewers, or editors, to foster the dissemination of medical an d scientific advances in the British Journal of Gastroenterology. As Editor-in-Chief, I welcome suggestions, discussions, and thoughts from authors and readers directed towards increasing the value of the journal to our readership, contributors, and the medical community at large.

Professor Brooks D. Cash, MD Founding Editor in Chief

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